

JOHN LECHONUS HEWARD  
AND MARY ANN GILBY

John L. Heward was born February 20, 1858, in Draper, Utah, a son of John Heward and Elizabeth Terry. He married Mary Ann Gilby, September 18, 1884, in the Salt Lake Endowment House. Mary was born July 4, 1866, in Salt Lake City, a daughter of Mathew Gilby and Francis Woods. John enjoyed perfect health all of his life. At 89 years of age, as he was getting out of a car at a doctor's office in Heber City, he slipped and fell backwards. When the doctor examined him he said it was a heart attack

and for John to go home and stay in bed a few days. He died March 30, 1947, 26 days after the fall. Mary never was well and became ill two weeks after John's passing. She died August 15, 1947. Their daughter Myrtie was a great comfort and help to them.

John's mother died in 1878 when John was 20 years old. A year later his father remarried so John left to live alone. He homesteaded 40 acres in Draper, built a one-room house and later added another. He worked shearing sheep and at other jobs. He also went to Idaho for six months to work on a railroad.

On his return to Utah he started keeping company with Mary Ann Gilby who lived in Salt Lake. He walked the 20 miles there and 20 miles back. Some time after their marriage, October 1901, they left Draper and went to Wallsburg. He worked on the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad about a year. In 1902 they moved to Charleston and ran the hotel nearly five years, then moved to Park City for one year where he worked in the Ontario Drain Tunnel at number 4 mill at Keetley. In 1908 they moved to Provo and in November 1919 moved back to Wallsburg where they lived for their remaining years. He owned a molasses factory at Draper.

He owned a creamery in Wallsburg for awhile. In Wallsburg he was justice of the peace, town marshal, road supervisor, janitor for the school for eight years and water master for the town ditch, and was ward teacher for 25 years. He was ordained a High Priest September 7, 1930. John L. liked to write poetry. The following is the last one he wrote:

*Thank God for You*

Thank God for you, good friends of mine  
Seldom is friendship such as thine  
How very much I wish to be  
As helpful as you've been to me.  
Of many prayers quests one thou art  
On whom I ask God to impart,  
Rich blessings from his storehouse rare  
And grant to you his gracious care.  
When I recall from time to time  
How you've inspired this heart of mine  
I find myself inclined to pray  
God may guide you all the way  
God bless my friends this very day.  
So often at the throne of Grace  
There comes a picture of your face

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And then intensively I pray  
That God may guide you all the way.  
Some day I hope with you to stand  
Before the throne of God's right hand  
Praise God, you've been a friend  
Thank God for you.

Their children are: John Percival, Mary Della, Nettie, Myrtie, Laurina Pearl, Liston, and Ray Pyne.

*Wallsburg*

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